

SENATE BILL 587

J1, J3

6lr2811

By: ~~Senator Guzzone~~ Senators Guzzone, Corderman, Hettleman, Lewis Young, McCray, Rosapepe, Salling, and Zucker

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 23, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Patient Safety Center Fund – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, rather than authorizing, the Governor to include in the
4 annual budget bill a certain appropriation to the Maryland Patient Safety Center
5 Fund; and generally relating to funding for the Maryland Patient Safety Center
6 Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Health – General
9 Section 19–112
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Health – General**

15 19–112.

16 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (2) “Center” means a Patient Safety Center designated by the Commission.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (3) "Fund" means the Maryland Patient Safety Center Fund.

2 (b) (1) On or before December 31, 2025, the Commission shall designate a
3 Center for the State.

4 (2) The Center designated under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
5 continue to act as the State-designated Center for the duration of the designation period,
6 as determined by the Commission, if the Center continuously meets the standards and
7 requirements established by the Commission.

8 (c) The designated Center shall:

9 (1) Develop, coordinate, and implement patient safety initiatives across the
10 State;

11 (2) Be a model for patient safety innovation and implementation in the
12 State;

13 (3) Convene health care providers, patients, and families to:

14 (i) Improve the quality of health care and reduce preventable and
15 avoidable harm; and

16 (ii) Provide safe and equitable health care for State citizens; and

17 (4) Share information relating to best practices among providers and
18 patients in the State.

19 (d) (1) There is a Patient Safety Center Fund.

20 (2) The purpose of the Fund is to subsidize a portion of the costs of the
21 Center so that the Center may perform the duties described under subsection (c) of this
22 section.

23 (3) The Commission shall administer the Fund.

24 (4) (i) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to §
25 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

26 (ii) The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund separately, and the
27 Comptroller shall account for the Fund.

28 (5) The Fund consists of:

29 (i) Money appropriated in the State budget to the Fund;

30 (ii) Interest earnings; and

1 (iii) Any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit
2 of the Fund.

3 (6) The Fund may be used only to subsidize a portion of the costs of the
4 Center so that the Center may perform the duties described under subsection (c) of this
5 section.

6 (7) (i) The State Treasurer shall invest the money of the Fund in the
7 same manner as other State money may be invested.

8 (ii) Any interest earnings of the Fund shall be credited to the Fund.

9 (e) (1) (i) For fiscal years 2023 through 2025, the Governor shall include in
10 the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the Fund.

11 (ii) For fiscal year [2026] **2027** and each fiscal year thereafter, the
12 Governor [may] **SHALL** include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1,000,000
13 for the Fund.

14 (2) The Commission may provide an annual grant from the Fund to the
15 Center in the amount appropriated under paragraph (1) of this subsection, plus any interest
16 and other income distributed to the Fund.

17 (3) Expenditures from the Fund may be made only in accordance with the
18 State budget.

19 (4) Money expended from the Fund for the Center is supplemental to, and
20 is not intended to take the place of, funding that otherwise would be appropriated for the
21 Center.

22 (f) On or before October 1 each year, the Commission, in conjunction with the
23 Center, shall report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and
24 Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government
25 Article, on:

26 (1) The Center's statewide activities related to the development,
27 coordination, and implementation of patient safety initiatives; and

28 (2) How the Center's statewide initiatives align with State-designated
29 priorities.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
31 1, 2026.